BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD AGENDA
January 5, 2016

P.I.O.T. - Website preview 6:30 p.m.

1. Call to order 7:00 p.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Consider approving agenda.
4. Consider approving minutes from December 22, 2015 meeting.
5. Announcements
6. Receive guests (for non-agenda items).
7. Public Information meeting for Route 110, Mill Street intersection project.
8. Consider Vermont Creamery’s request for phased in increase of sewer use bill.
11. Consider appointing two budget committee members.
12. Consider first reading/introduction of an ordinance changing the speed limit on Graniteville Road between Middle Road and the picnic area.
13. Reconsider or re-affirm authorization for consultant to write Assistance to Firefighters Grant application.
14. Consider approving weekly accounts payable warrants.
15. Miscellaneous - including any licenses and permits.
16. "Round the table"
17. Executive session: (if needed).
18. Adjourn.

BARRE TOWN SELECTBOARD MINUTES
January 5, 2016

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Selectboard of January 5, 2016 was scheduled to be held at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Selectboard Room, in Lower Websterville at 7:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: Rolland Tessier, Tom White, Rob LaClair, John “Jack” Mitchell, and Jeff Blow (by telephone).

Others attending were: Acting Town Manager Chris Violette, Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty, Bob Reese, Elaine Wang, Maureen Casey, Erin Parizo, Dan Peck, David Saladino, Patti Coburn, Justin Bolduc, and Town Engineer Harry Hinrichsen.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

The PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA MINUTES

On a motion by Tessier seconded by Blow, the Selectboard voted to amend the agenda: Item 17, Executive Session, add item for labor contracts and union grievance.

MINUTES

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to approve the Selectboard meeting minutes of December 22, 2015 with the following correction:

1. Page 2, Fire Department Assistance, first paragraph, last line, insert the word “and” between match and is;
2. Page 5, Adjourn, first paragraph: strike Mitchell making the motion and insert “White.”
ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Recreation Board is once again offering Pickleball for adults! The activity will be in the Barre Town School gymnasium from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. On January 10 and 24 an instructor will be present to conduct a clinic. On January 17 and January 31 – March 20 there will be open Pickleball play. This activity is free to all who wish to play.

2. The Department of Public Works collects Christmas trees placed out by the road or street. Please remove the stand, all lights, other wires, garland and bulbs. During the week of January 11 -15 the DPW will pick up the area south and west of Route 302 including West Hill, South Barre, and East Barre. Snow and ice storms may delay collection times.

3. There are still two part-time positions open, the Deputy Health Officer and a position reserved for a South Barre community member on the Phoenix House Community Relations Working Group. To read and learn more about the Deputy Health Officer duties visit the Department of Health website at www.healthvermont.gov/local/tho/tho.aspx. For more information on the Phoenix House Committee contact the Town Manager's Office at 479-9331. Anyone interested in either position should submit their letter of interest to the Town manager.

GUESTS - None

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING – ROUTE 110/MILL STREET INTERSECTION

Background: The Vermont Agency of Transportation and its consultant will be showing the public and Selectboard the conceptual plans for changing the intersection of Mill Street and Vermont Route 110. Notices have been in the paper and posted throughout the Town. This is an informational meeting only.

State representatives were present. A brief power point presentation was given outlining the events leading to this report. The project is through conceptual design and is now in the design phase (develop the plan through to construction).

Issues of concern were:

- Proposed entrance/exit from Cameron’s Garage;
- One way direction for Bianchi Street;
- Impact of traffic being directed to Carnes Road and then onto VT 110;
- How residents of Bianchi Street feel about changing the road to one-way.

The project timeline is to have conceptual done in 2015 (completed); Preliminary work to be done in the Spring of 2016; proceed with rights-of-way acquisition (18 months), 2016-2017; Final plans in Summer of 2018, contract for project work in Fall of 2018; and Construction to begin in 2019.

It was agreed the Project Manager will review the items of concern and report back.

It is noted there is no cost to the Town for this project as this is a fully federally funded.

On a side note Blow inquired about the Round-a-bout on Route 302 maintenance and the issue of speed being inappropriate.

VT CREAMERY’S REQUEST FOR PHASED IN INCREASE OF SEWER BILL

Background: Bob Reese, VT Creamery, asked to meet with the Selectboard. The amount of wastewater produced by the business is equivalent to 31 units. Vermont
Selectboard Minutes of January 5, 2016 continued:
Creamery would like to increase its allocation to 35 units. The previous owner of the building has paid for 15 sewer units ($1,500 per unit). To get an allocation of 35 units VT Creamery would have to pay for 20 units ($30,000). Mr. Reese would like to ask the Selectboard to allow spreading this payment over 5 years.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted unanimously to convene as the Board of Sewer Commissioners at 8:00 p.m.

The Town Engineer and Mr. Reese were present. The Board thanked Mr. Reese for his efforts in reducing BOD over the years and recognized how his company has grown, providing many new jobs in Barre Town.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Blow, the Selectboard voted unanimously to support Vermont Creamery’s request for the additional 20 sewer units with the fee of $30,000 to be paid over 5 fiscal years, commencing with the year starting July 1, 2016.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted unanimously to reconvene the Selectboard regular meeting at 8:17 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING – SALE OF WILSON INDUSTRIAL PARK LOT

Background: As required by the Town Charter whenever town owned land is sold there must be a public hearing to allow comment. New England Excess Exchange is purchasing a lot across the road from its existing facility. The new lot would be converted to a parking lot with the intent of constructing new office space in the future.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to open the public hearing for the sale of a Wilson Industrial Park lot to New England Excess Exchange at 8:21 p.m.

There were no public comments.

On a motion by Blow, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to close the public hearing at 8:23 p.m.

TROW HILL PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Background: Elaine Wang, Special Projects Assistant, received the bids for the purchase of the Trow Hill Playground equipment (a budgeted item). The Recreation Board met last night and she is presenting a recommendation for Selectboard action.

Ms. Wang reviewed the bid sheet. A motion was made and withdrawn for the purchase of what appeared to be the low bidder. Selectboard concerns are the availability of the town crew, the bid sheet did not include repaying the various Town departments for the services/equipment. These factors/costs will impact the final number. The item will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

APPOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Background: In accordance with the Town Charter a Budget Committee of 10 will review the proposed fiscal year budgets each year. The membership will consist of the 5 Selectboard members, 2 members appointed by the Selectboard, 1 member appointed by the Town Clerk-Treasurer, and the remaining 2 members appointed by the 3 (Board and Clerk) appointees. The Town Clerk-Treasurer has appointed William Wolfe. The Town advertised for interested parties and received three letters of interest.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted to appoint Paul White and Bob Nelson to the 2016-2017 Budget Committee.
Selectboard Minutes of January 5, 2016 continued:

During discussion it was noted additional letters of interest were received, but after the deadline. Justin Bolduc was present and introduced himself to the Board. The Board informed Mr. Bolduc that if he was not appointed to this Committee they hoped he would be open to serving on other town committees.

FIRST READING - SPEED LIMIT CHANGE ON MIDDLE ROAD/GRANITEVILLE ROAD

Background: The Police Department pointed out that the speed limit signs on Graniteville Road do not match the speed limit ordinance. It was decided the best course would be to keep the existing signs and add an amendment to the ordinance. The amendment would extend the 25 mph zone from the picnic area (on Graniteville Road across from Rock of Ages) to Middle Road.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to read by title only “An Ordinance of the Town of Barre, Vermont, Amending Chapter 7, Section 7-61 (Speed Limits) of the Barre Town Code of Ordinances.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Mitchell, the Selectboard voted to advance the amendment “An Ordinance of the Town of Barre, Vermont, Amending Chapter 7, Section 7-61 (Speed Limits) of the Barre Town Code of Ordinances to a second reading (public hearing) on January 19, 2016.

RECONSIDER AUTHORIZATION FOR GRANT CONSULTANT - FIRE DEPT. GRANT

Background: During the last meeting the Selectboard the Fire Chief was authorized to hire a consultant to apply for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant. He was informed there would be no local match. However, recent events found that to be untrue and there will be a 5% local match. Based on cost estimates, the local match would be $13,080. The Town has been setting aside for the firefighting equipment replacement which slightly exceeds what this local match would be. The Fire Chief is requesting the Selectboard reconsider and/or reaffirm their support of hiring the consultant to assist with writing the grant which would include a 5% local match.

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to reaffirm their support of hiring Fire Grants Help (San Francisco, CA.) to assist with writing the grant application for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant due January 15, 2016 knowing there is a 5% local match.

WEEKLY ACCOUNTS PAYABLE WARRANT

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrant for December 23, 2015. Blow abstained from the vote.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by LaClair, the Selectboard voted unanimously to approve the accounts payable warrant for January 5, 2016

MISCELLANEOUS - None

‘ROUND THE TABLE

LaClair noted the Legislature has started the new session. Big items are the $90 million state deficit and legalizing marijuana.

Mitchell noted that Jim & Bev Lawson, Lawson's Store, in Websterville, were featured in a recent VAST magazine article for their 43 years of working with the snowmobile clubs. Congrats!
Selectboard Minutes of January 5, 2016 continued:

Mitchell was disappointed that Chair Blow was not present. He would like to have a discussion before budget meetings begin regarding the Aldrich Library. In particular to follow-up on the separate article additional funding last year and what it means for the upcoming budget year.

Mitchell inquired when the EMS contract wrap up will happen. It was noted when the Manager returns.

Mitchell noted that during the Selectboard retreat the filling of the Assistant Town Manager position was a goal. He would like to see this on an agenda for discussion sooner rather than later. Blow noted the Manager has hired some temporary staff to assist with special projects (Ms. Wang and Ms. Casey).

Tessier stated in the packet was information on the disposition of solar panels when they reach their end-of-life cycle. This is a must read and something for the Town to be aware of with so many projects planned for Barre Town.

Chris Violette stated the Manager had a death in the family and was out of town. He is asking the Selectboard to consider canceling the meeting of January 12th.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to cancel the Selectboard meeting of January 12, 2016.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to find that premature general public knowledge would place the Town at a substantial disadvantage with regards to labor contracts and union grievances.

On a motion by Mitchell, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to go into executive session for labor contracts and union grievances at 9:28 p.m.

On a motion by Tessier, seconded by White, the Selectboard voted to come out of executive session at 9:37 p.m.

ADJOURN

On a motion by LaClair, seconded by Tessier, the Selectboard voted to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Donna J. Kelty - Town Clerk-Treasurer

Selectboard Chair

Barre Town Selectboard